

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1-20 (previously cancelled)

21. (currently amended) A process for producing sustained skin rejuvenation, comprising the steps of:

- a) initially applying retinoic acid to the skin;
- b) exploding a contaminant on the surface of the skin with laser light, said laser light having a pulse duration of about 0.001 to about 1 microsecond, a wave length of from about 800nm to 1200nm, and a fluence of from about 1 to 3 J/cm², and wherein said exploding a contaminant on the surface of the skin leaves the epidermis intact and undamaged, and produces a wound selectively in the high dermis; by itself is ineffective in treating skin;
- c) applying retinoic acid to the skin 4 to 16 times per month after step b); and
- d) repeating step b) at least once every 6 months during step c), wherein steps c) and d) produce a sustained rejuvenation of the skin.

22. (previously cancelled)

23. (previously amended) The process of claim 21 wherein the step of initially applying retinoic acid to the skin comprises two weeks.

24. (previously amended) The process of claim 21 wherein exploding a contaminant on the surface of the skin of the face with laser light is completed within about two to ten minutes.

25. (previously amended) The process of claim 24 wherein exploding a contaminant on the surface of the skin of the face with laser light is completed within about four minutes.

26. (previously amended) The process of claim 21 wherein the step of exploding a contaminant on the surface of the skin with laser light after initially applying retinoic acid to the skin is performed two to twelve times within a six month period.

27. (previously amended) The process of claim 26 wherein the step of exploding a contaminant on the surface of the skin with laser light after initially applying retinoic acid to the skin is performed six times within a six month period.

28. (previously amended) The process of claim 21 wherein said laser light has a pulse frequency of from about 1 to 20 per second.

29. (previously amended) The process of claim 21 wherein said laser light has a wave length of about 1064nm, a pulse frequency of about 10 per second, a pulse duration of about 0.01 microsecond, and a fluence of about 2.5 J/cm².

30–32 (previously cancelled)

33. (previously amended) The process of claim 21 wherein said retinoic acid is applied topically at a concentration of from about 0.05% to 1% without producing side effects.

34. (original) The process of claim 33 wherein said retinoic acid is applied topically at a concentration of about 0.1%.

35. (previously amended) The process of claim 21 wherein said process is used to improve the appearance of broken blood vessels, angiomas, scars, lines, wrinkles, pigmentation, and redness in the skin.

36. (previously amended) The process of claim 21 wherein said process is used on acne, warts, cold sores, eczema, psoriasis, and infections of the skin.

37. (original) The process of claim 29 wherein said laser light is produced by a Q-switched Nd:YAG laser.

38. (new) The process of claim 21 wherein exploding said contaminant on the surface of the skin produces a wound in the rete peg area of the high dermis.

39. (new) The process of claim 21 wherein exploding said contaminant on the surface of the skin does not remove stratum corneum.

40. (new) The process of claim 21 wherein exploding said contaminant on the surface of the skin produces a wound in the rete peg area of the high dermis and does not remove stratum corneum.